



## IDAHO CROP & LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS' NEWS

### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC

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February 28, 2006 FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

*Dear Respondent:*

*This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News covers the results of the December 2005 Bee and Honey Inquiry. Total Honey production, yield per colony and average price per pound are reported for Idaho and the U.S.*

*This release is sent to survey participants in appreciation for their time spent responding to the survey. For more information contact us at [nass-id@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-id@nass.usda.gov) or at 1-800-691-9987. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.*

Sincerely,

William R. Meyer  
Director

### Idaho Honey Production Decreased 44 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.52 million pounds, a 44 percent decrease from 2004. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 95,000 colonies, down 5,000 from last year's estimate. Yield per colony averaged 37.0 pounds, down 26 pounds from the 63.0 pounds in 2004. Producer honey stocks were 1.79 million pounds on December 15, 2005, a decrease of 29 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound is 80.0 cents, down 19 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 175 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2004. There were 2.41 million colonies producing honey in 2005, down 6 percent from 2004. Yield per colony averaged 72.5 pounds, up 1 percent from the 71.8 pounds in 2004.

Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where the honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 62.4 million pounds on December 15, 2005, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program. Honey prices decreased during 2005 to 90.4 cents, down 15 percent from 106.9 cents in 2004. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

### Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2004-05

Color Class	Price					
	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Cents Per Pounds					
Water White, Extra White, White	104.4	82.4	177.0	186.7	107.5	86.2
Extra Light Amber	95.9	79.4	150.6	178.0	102.0	88.3
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	85.9	80.1	196.0	178.9	105.1	99.1
All Other Honey, Area Specialties	113.9	91.6	231.5	279.2	161.5	108.4
All Honey	99.2	81.6	182.6	183.3	106.9	90.4

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,  
and Value by State and United States, 2005 <sup>1/</sup>**

State	Honey Producing Colonies	Yield Per Colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup>	Average Price per Pound <sup>3/</sup>	Value of Production
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>--1,000 Pounds--</i>		<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Alabama	13	66	858	266	128	1,098
Arizona	36	50	1,800	720	97	1,746
Arkansas	36	69	2,484	571	95	2,360
California	400	75	30,000	9,300	84	25,200
Colorado	26	70	1,820	837	104	1,893
Florida	160	86	13,760	2,477	87	11,971
Georgia	59	49	2,891	434	84	2,428
Hawaii	9	131	1,179	283	134	1,580
Idaho	95	37	3,515	1,793	80	2,812
Illinois	8	85	680	408	162	1,102
Indiana	8	64	512	189	119	609
Iowa	28	88	2,464	1,232	98	2,415
Kansas	16	50	800	328	124	992
Kentucky	5	50	250	40	212	530
Louisiana	35	97	3,395	611	71	2,410
Maine	8	26	208	193	187	389
Michigan	65	68	4,420	2,519	99	4,376
Minnesota	120	74	8,880	1,598	83	7,370
Mississippi	16	80	1,280	346	66	845
Missouri	15	50	750	180	121	908
Montana	130	67	8,710	3,136	80	6,968
Nebraska	40	68	2,720	2,530	89	2,421
Nevada	12	46	552	442	209	1,154
New Jersey	12	32	384	104	118	453
New Mexico	7	49	343	113	102	350
New York	60	73	4,380	2,321	122	5,344
North Carolina	10	54	540	146	194	1,048
North Dakota	370	91	33,670	8,418	81	27,273
Ohio	15	69	1,035	580	141	1,459
Oregon	39	42	1,638	557	108	1,769
Pennsylvania	28	56	1,568	800	105	1,646
South Dakota	220	79	17,380	11,818	76	13,209
Tennessee	7	55	385	92	164	631
Texas	84	71	5,964	954	85	5,069
Utah	23	45	1,035	331	103	1,066
Vermont	6	91	546	169	106	579
Virginia	8	37	296	59	221	654
Washington	51	55	2,805	1,935	106	2,973
West Virginia	8	51	408	102	124	506
Wisconsin	64	83	5,312	2,922	114	6,056
Wyoming	40	56	2,240	291	87	1,949
Other States <sup>4/ 5/</sup>	18	44	786	261	278	2,184
<b>US <sup>5/</sup></b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>174,643</b>	<b>62,406</b>	<b>90.4</b>	<b>157,795</b>

<sup>1/</sup> For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state. <sup>2/</sup> Stocks held by producers. <sup>3/</sup> Prices weighted by sales. <sup>4/</sup> CT, DE, MD, MA, NH, OK, RI and SC not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. <sup>5/</sup> Total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

**A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS**

Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.